

REMARKS

Reconsideration and allowance in view of the forgoing amendment and the following remarks are respectfully requested.

In the non-final Office Action of February 13, 2004, the Examiner objects to the specification due to missing U.S. Patent Application Serial Numbers for applications cited in the "Cross-Reference to Related Applications" section of the specification and rejects claims 1-25 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as allegedly being unpatentable over by U.S Patent No. 5,539,884 to Robrock, II in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,252,952 to Kung et al. ("Kung").

By this amendment, claims 1-17, 19 and 26-28 are pending. Claims 1-17 and 19 are amended and claims 18 and 20-25 are canceled without prejudice or disclaimer. Claims 26-28 are newly added. Claims 1-11, 13-17 and 19 are amended only to improve form.

Applicants traverse the rejection with respect to claims 1-11. Applicants submit that amended claim 12 obviates the rejection with respect to claims 12-17 and 19. The rejection of claims 18 and 20-25 is now moot due to the cancellation of these claims.

Objection to the Specification

Applicants amended the specification to provide the missing application serial numbers and to correct typographical errors. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the objection to the specification be withdrawn.

Claims 1-8

Claim 1 recites an intelligent network for use with an ATM network to set up an ATM switched virtual circuit to provide voice telephony over ATM services and closed user group services. The intelligent network comprises, among other things, an ATM signaling intercept processor operable to intercept an input ATM setup message from an ingress ATM edge switch of the ATM network, extract the input from the input ATM setup message, communicate the input to a multi-service control point, receive the output generated by the multi-service control point, generate the output ATM setup message using the output, and communicate the output ATM setup message to the ingress ATM edge switch of the ATM network.

Robrock, II relates to broadband communication networks having intelligent network control. See Robrock, II, column 1, lines 13-16. On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner asserts that Robrock, II discloses a connection management processor 64, which would read on

the ATM signaling intercept processor. The Examiner cites Robrock, II, Figs. 2A-2B, column 7, lines 60-67, and column 10, line 1 through column 11, line 20 to support the assertion.

Applicants respectfully disagree.

Column 7, lines 62-64 of Robrock, II states that connection management processor 64 establishes and releases virtual connections and maintains the ATM switch. Robrock, II, column 10, lines 1-4, states that, to establish a connection, the CPE generates a signaling cell, which is sent to the ATM switch. The ATM switch 51 routes the signaling cell to the broadband intelligent network service control point (BIN SCP) 61 (Robrock, II, column 10, lines 4-5). BIN SCP 61 acts upon information in the signaling cell, generates translation information, and sends a command cell back to connection management processor 64 and a signaling cell to the called party 54 (Robrock, II, column 10, lines 5-9). In response to the command cell, connection management processor 64 populates a translation table with information necessary to establish a virtual circuit in ATM switch 51 (Robrock, II, column 10, lines 21-25). Thereafter, communication cells generated by the connected parties are received by ATM switch 51 and routed in accordance with the translation table (Robrock, II, column 10, lines 25-27). Thus, although ATM switch 51 may use the translation table populated by connection management processor 64 to route calls, the command cell from BIN SCP 61 is not communicated to ATM switch 51.

As stated above, Robrock, II discloses that connection management processor 61 populates translation tables to permit fast switching through ATM switch 51. Robrock, II does not disclose or suggest that the connection management processor 64 generates an output ATM setup message using output generated by a multi-service control point and communicates the output ATM setup message to the ingress ATM edge switch of the ATM network, as does the ATM signaling intercept processor of claim 1. Therefore, Applicants submit that the connection management processor 64 of Robrock, II does not read on the ATM signaling intercept processor of claim 1. Further, Robrock, II does not disclose or suggest anything that generates an output ATM setup message using output generated by a multi-service control point and communicates the output ATM setup message to the ingress ATM edge switch of the ATM network, as does the ATM signaling intercept processor as recited in claim 1.

On page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner admits that Robrock, II does not specifically disclose determining whether to authorize a voice telephony over ATM call between a calling and a called party. The Examiner relies on Kung to disclose this feature.

Kung relates to providing a broadband communication system that includes an Internet Protocol Telephony Network and a public switched telephone network (Kung, column 1, lines 11-13). However, Kung fails to satisfy the deficiencies of Robrock, II, at least because Kung also does not disclose or suggest an ATM signaling intercept processor, as recited in claim 1.

Because neither Robrock, II nor Kung disclose or suggest, separately or in combination, an ATM signaling intercept processor, as recited in claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 1 is patentable over Robrock, II in view of Kung and respectfully request that the rejection of claim 1 be withdrawn.

Further, on page 4 of the Office Action, the Examiner states that the service switching point (SSP) of Robrock, II reads on the ingress ATM edge switch and that the BIN SCP 61 of Robrock, II accesses its database to determine how to route a call. The Examiner further states that, once the call routing is determined, BIN SCP 61 will generate a response that is sent to the switch and instructs the switch on how to route the call. However, as discussed above, with respect to claim 1, Robrock, II discloses that to establish a connection, the CPE generates a signaling cell, which is sent to the ATM switch (Robrock, II, column 10, lines 1-4). The ATM switch 51 routes the signaling cell to BIN SCP 61 (Robrock, II, column 10, lines 4-5). BIN SCP 61 acts upon information in the signaling cell, generates translation information, and sends a command cell back to connection management processor 64 and a signaling cell to the called party 54 (Robrock, II, column 10, lines 5-9). Robrock, II does not disclose or suggest communicating the output ATM setup message to the ingress ATM edge switch (or service switching point switch, as suggested by the Examiner). Kung also does not disclose or suggest communicating the output ATM setup message to the ingress ATM edge switch, as recited in claim 9.

Further, Applicants are confused as to why the Examiner would state that the service switching point reads on the ingress ATM edge switch. Robrock, II discusses the service switching point as being part of a prior art intelligent network (IN) architecture (Robrock, II, column 1, lines 57-63). Robrock, II states that IN and advanced intelligent network (AIN) cannot meet customers' needs for broadband video and data services because the underlying circuit switched network is limited by its bandwidth and signaling speeds (Robrock, II, column 4, lines 17-21). Fig. 6A of Robrock, II and column 11, lines 31-44 discuss a conventional service control processor (SCP) 160 in a circuit switched network. The SCP back-end processors 162 are connected to front-end processors 166, which in turn are coupled to SSPs

through Signaling System 7 (SS7) links in a common channel signaling network (CCSN) (Robrock, II, column 11, lines 35-37). Robrock, II, at column 11, lines 41-44, further states that the speed and protocol of the signaling network 136 and the SCP interfacing thereto make the prior art SCP unsatisfactory for application to fast-packet networks. Thus, Robrock, II suggests that one would not use an SSP in a broadband network, such as, for example, an ATM network.

Claims 2-8 depend from claim 1, either directly or indirectly. For at least this reason, Applicants submit that claims 2-8 are patentable over Robrock, II in view of Kung and respectfully request that the rejection of claims 2-8 be withdrawn.

Claims 9-11

Claim 9 recites a method for providing voice telephony over ATM and closed user group services using an intelligent network and a switched virtual circuit over an ATM network. The method comprises, among other things, generating an output ATM setup message that includes the ATM address of customer premises equipment of a called party and communicating the output ATM setup message to the ingress ATM edge switch of the ATM network.

Applicants submit that the above-mentioned features of claim 9 are similar to the previously discussed features of claim 1. For at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1, Applicants submit that claim 9 is patentable over Robrock, II and Kung and respectfully request that the rejection of claim 9 be withdrawn.

Claims 10-11 depend from claim 9, either directly or indirectly, and are patentable over Robrock, II in view of Kung for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 9. Therefore, Applicants respectfully request that the rejection of claims 10-11 be withdrawn.

Claims 12-17 and 19

Claim 12 recites a method for providing a closed user group service to authorize voice telephony over ATM calls using an intelligent network and a switched virtual circuit over an ATM network. The method comprises, among other things, generating an output ATM setup message that includes an ATM address of customer premises equipment of a called party when the voice telephony over ATM call between a calling party and the called party is to be completed, and communicating the output ATM setup message to an ingress ATM edge switch of the ATM network. Applicants submit that the above-mentioned features are similar to the features of claim 9, discussed above. Applicants submit that claim 12 is patentable over

Robrock, II in view of Kung for at least the reasons discussed above, with respect to claim 9. Applicants, therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claim 12 be withdrawn.

Claims 13-17 and 19 depend, either directly or indirectly, from claim 9 and are patentable over Robrock, II in view of Kung for at least the reasons discussed above, with respect to claim 12. Applicants therefore, respectfully request that the rejection of claims 13-17 and 19 be withdrawn.

Further, Applicants wish to point out that the reason for the rejection of claim 17 is not mentioned anywhere in the Office Action. Therefore, Applicants submit that the Examiner did not make a prima facie case of obviousness with respect to claim 17.

New Claims 26-28

New claim 26 recites an intelligent network for use with an ATM network for providing voice telephony over ATM and closed user group services via an ATM network. The intelligent network comprises, among other things, an ATM signaling intercept processor configured to intercept an input ATM setup message from an ingress ATM edge switch, extract information from the input ATM setup message, communicate the extracted information to a multi-service control point, receive an output message from the multi-service control point, generate an output ATM setup message that includes the ATM address of the customer premises equipment of the called party, and communicate the output ATM setup message to an ingress ATM edge switch. The above-mentioned features of the ATM signaling intercept processor are similar to the previously discussed features of the ATM signaling intercept processor of claim 1. Applicants submit that claim 26 is patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 1.

Claims 27-28 depend from claim 26, either directly or indirectly, and are patentable for at least the reasons discussed above with respect to claim 26.

Conclusion

All rejections and objections having been addressed, Applicants submit that the application is now in condition for allowance and a notice to that effect is earnestly solicited.

To the extent necessary, a petition for an extension of time under 37 CFR 1.136 is hereby made. Please charge any shortage in fees due in connection with the filing of this paper, including extension of time fees, to Deposit Account No. 13-2491 and please credit any excess fees to such deposit account.

Respectfully submitted,

HARRITY & SNYDER, L.L.P.

By: Richard C. Irving
Richard C. Irving
Reg. No. 38,499

11240 Waples Mill Road
Suite 300
Fairfax, Virginia 22030
(571) 432-0800

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